

Appl. No. 10/719,258  
Atty. Docket No. 9433  
Amdt. dated 16 March 16, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of December 16, 2005  
Customer No. 27752

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### Listing of Claims:

- Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A tampon for feminine hygiene comprising an insertion end, a withdrawal end, a longitudinal axis, and an outer surface;  
said tampon being comprised of compressed fibrous material;  
wherein said outer surface of said tampon comprises a plurality of raised portions;  
each of said raised portions comprising a first width dimension x, a first width dimension  $x^1$  and a second width dimension y, and a second width dimension  $y^1$ ;  
wherein the insertion end comprises the first width dimension x and a second width dimension y and the withdrawal end comprises a first width dimension  $x^1$  and a second width dimension  $y^1$ ; and  
wherein said first width dimension x is greater than said second width dimension y.
- Claim 2. (Withdrawn) The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said insertion end comprises said first width dimension x.
- Claim 3. (Withdrawn) The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said insertion end comprises said second width dimension y.
- Claim 4. (Original) The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said raised portions are arranged in a pattern.
- Claim 5. (Withdrawn) The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said raised portions are parallel with said longitudinal axis.
- Claim 6. (Withdrawn) The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said raised portions are spirally shaped.

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**Claim 7. (Withdrawn)** The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein the fibrous material of said tampon has an essentially uniform density over a cross-section of the tampon.

**Claim 8. (Withdrawn)** The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein the fibrous material of said tampon has varying density over a cross-section of the tampon.

**Claim 9. (Original)** The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said tampon further comprises a core which is highly compressed.

**Claim 10. (Original)** The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said withdrawal end further comprises a withdrawal member.

**Claim 11. (Original)** The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said withdrawal end further comprises a finger indent.